

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and prior versions, of the claims.

**Listing of Claims:**

1 - 23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples originating from at least n different containers where n is greater than or equal to 2, said method comprising the steps of:

drawing a given volume of n samples originating from n different containers of liquids;

placing each of the samples drawn respectively in an intermediate sampling chamber; and

transferring by gravity identical volumes of each sample drawn into a common mixing container and obtaining a mixture sample to be analysed.

25. (currently amended) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 24, wherein the drawing step consists of drawing a volume of liquid from each container comprising between 0.5 and 20 ~~millilitres~~ milliliters.

26. (currently amended) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 24, wherein the drawing

step consists of drawing a volume of liquid from each container comprising between 2 and 8 ~~millilitres~~ milliliters.

27. (currently amended) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 24, wherein the step of transferring to the mixing container consists of transferring a volume of each drawn sample comprising between 0.5 and 20 ~~millilitres~~ milliliters.

28. (currently amended) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 24, wherein the step of transferring to the mixing container consists of transferring a volume of each drawn sample comprising between 2 and 8 ~~millilitres~~ milliliters.

29. (previously presented) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 24, wherein the step of transferring the drawn samples into the mixing container is initiated by an external action.

30. (previously presented) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 24, wherein the step of transferring the drawn samples into the mixing container is initiated automatically.

31. (previously presented) A method for continuously drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 24, wherein the drawing of the liquid samples of the first step is performed in a sterile manner.

32. (currently amended) A continuous method for the analysis of liquids, said method comprising the steps of:

drawing a given volume of  $n$  samples originating from  $n$  different containers of liquids where  $n$  is greater than or equal to 2;  
placing each of the samples drawn respectively in an intermediate sampling chamber;  
transferring by gravity identical volumes of each sample drawn into a common mixing container and obtaining a mixture sample to be analysed; and  
transferring a given volume of the mixture sample to be analysed to an analysis device.

33. (currently amended) A continuous method for the analysis of liquids according to Claim 32, wherein the step of transferring to the analysis device consists of transferring a minimum volume of 1 ~~millilitre~~ milliliter of the mixture sample.

34. (previously presented) A continuous method for the analysis of liquids according to Claim 32, wherein said transferring step comprises transferring at least part of the mixture sample to the analysis device aseptically.

35. (currently amended) A device for drawing and mixing samples of liquids originating from at least two different containers, said device comprising a mixing chamber connected to each of said containers, at least one intermediate sampling chamber between each said container and the mixing chamber, said at least one intermediate sampling chamber being connected so as to transfer to said mixing chamber at least part of the sampled liquid, and said device being configured in a vertical arrangement, and the mixing chamber being disposed under said at least one intermediate sampling chamber and connected to said at least one intermediate sampling chamber so that the samples of

liquid contained in the at least one intermediate sampling chamber flow by gravity into the mixing chamber.

36. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, wherein said mixing chamber is disposed under said sampling chambers.

37. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, wherein the mixing chamber is associated in a removable manner with the sampling chambers.

38. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, wherein a connection between the containers and the sampling chambers comprises a piece of tubing, a tap, and a stopper that can be pierced by a needle or a screw-fitting sealed by a stopper.

39. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to any Claim 35, wherein a connection between the sampling chambers and the mixing chamber comprises a tube, a breakable fitting, and a tap or a tubing clip.

40. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, wherein the mixing chamber is sealed by means of at least one of a screwed stopper, a stopper that can be pierced by a needle, a tap and a piece of tubing.

41. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, further comprising at least one non-return valve.

42. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, wherein the drawing and mixing device (1) is a sterile device.

43. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, wherein the drawing and mixing device is a device that can be sterilised by  $\beta$  or  $\gamma$  irradiation.

44. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, further comprising means for connecting said drawing and mixing device to an analysis device.

45. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 44, wherein the connecting means between the drawing and mixing device and the analysis device comprises an aseptic connection.

46. (previously presented) A device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to Claim 35, wherein at least one of the sampling chambers and the mixing chamber consists of a flexible PVC plastic material.

47. (new) An assembly consisting of a device for drawing and mixing liquid samples according to claim 35 and an analysis device, said analysis device being connected to the mixing chamber of the device for drawing and mixing liquid samples so that the samples contained by the mixing chamber are transferred to the analysis device.